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Hongkong, 19th November, 1894.

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No anonymously signed communications that have appeared in the columns of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied by the Editor.

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MARRIAGE.

At Holy Trinity Church, Hongkong, on the 28th November, 1894, by the Rev. H. C. Lee, Stewart Wm. McLean, to NELLIE MACTAVISH.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 3RD, 1894.

The Imperial Edict the substance of which has been published by our Shanghai morning contemporary, said to be a reply to a memorial by certain officials suggesting the removal of the capital of China westward, is certainly a remarkable document. There is something pathetic about the whole circumstances. The young Emperor, a pale and melancholy youth, brought up in the strict seclusion of the Court, without any knowledge of the world, saw the very limited glimpses of it obtainable from the few books at his disposal, always taught to regard himself as the divinely appointed ruler of the greatest country and people in Asia, the Son of Heaven, Lord of the Dragon Throne, and other high-sounding titles, suddenly and cruelly disillusioned by the storm of facts. After systematic attempts to blind him by mendacious reports of Chinese victories, the naked truth at length reaches his ears, and he finds that the despised Westerners have triumphed in every step of the campaign, both by land and sea, that the Chinese troops have been defeated and dispersed, and that the enemy are now advancing towards his capital. It is interesting to note that His Majesty had in his mind the wish and intention to introduce reforms. "When we first took charge of the affairs of the empire," he says, "it was our intention to introduce many reforms." But he seems to see that the opportunity for doing so has gone by. Alluding to the present war, he plaintively remarks:—"Sudden and unexpectedly the Japanese have broken the peace, taken away our Korean dependency, and taken possession of the borders of our empire. We have sent our generals with their armies to punish the Japanese and drive them away, but we never intended to disturb the peace of the Japanese empire. This our ancestors and foreign nations all know. Little did we expect that the generals were incompetent and the soldiers inebriate, so that the Japanese gained victory after victory and place after place, till our ancestors in their very graves are disturbed. This is because we are unworthy and have employed unfit men." The young Emperor has here put his finger on the immediate cause of all the national disasters, but probably even yet he is unable to perceive that the system of government is primarily responsible for the appointment of the men who by their corruption and incompetence have betrayed the Empire. The Emperor Kwang-Su had to bear the consequences, but he is really the victim of circumstances, not the person on whom the blame should rightfully fall. But he plaintively accepts the position, and with true Oriental apathy and fatalism resigns himself to perish at the post of duty, which he conceives to be to guard the sacred altars. It says he, "the worst should come and the

Japanese got possession of the sacred altars," then "there remains nothing for us but to part with them. When that time comes, may you reverently escort the Emperor Dowager westward and elect a worthy man to be Emperor and to look after the sacred altars of our ancestors and wife off this disgrace."

This sounds well and is undoubtedly high minded and unselfish, but we should have more hope for China and for the Emperor if instead of this week if not unheroic self-renunciation, he had turned indignantly upon his advisers and upon those who have had the conduct of the war and summarily degraded and dismissed them from office and power. Unfortunately it is too evident that His Majesty is not made of sufficiently stern material to thus take the reins into his hands, and shake himself free from Court guidance and control. He is what his education and training have made him—weak and helpless. The overreaching influences of the harem have rendered him a mere puppet, in spite of aspirations for a larger existence. He is to be pitied rather than blamed; but none the less it is clear that not through the Emperor's instrumentalities will China work out her political salvation. The Empire is over now tottering, and unless supported by the Western Powers it must surely fall. The elements of revolution exist within. The officials pull all ways, as their present interest may dictate. Each province is for itself and not for the Empire. The Central Government, comparatively strong in time of peace, is now shaken like a leaf, and receives no effective support from the provincial administrations. The Nanyang Squadron, so often summoned north to the support of the Peiping Squadron, has steadily declined to leave the Yangtze. The appeal for funds has been very laconically responded to. The province of Kwangtung, which might readily find five times the sum not yet subscribed the five million taels asked for, in spite of strenuous efforts on the part of the provincial officials to boost up subscriptions. The Viceroy is more bent on consolidating their own power than on assisting the Imperial Government. Li Han-Chang has just raised two thousand troops in his native province, Anhwei, for service in Whampoa and Canton, and has despatched a thousand Cantonese troops north. The object of this piece of generosity seems more likely to be the security of his own person than a patriotic desire to help to resist the invasion of Manchuria. The Emperor has at the present moment scarcely a soul or whom he can trust. Prince Kung no doubt possesses the will, but he has no power to do more than issue commands that may or may not be obeyed. Li Hung-Chang, the erstwhile potent Viceroy of Chihli, now so fallen that few to-day will do him reverence, is utterly discredited, the corrupt tools with whom he was working having proved treacherous and untrustworthy. He is probably retained in his position only because he has established a reputation here, so much so that he would be buyers found a difficulty in obtaining supplies. This has now been remedied by the leading Chinese men, now half sick, having made arrangements for regular shipments. Our Australian neighbours have behaved so honourably that they deserve it. We understand that their wives are now likely to come largely into consumption here.

The Straits Times of the 28th December says: "The fall in price of sugar has proved disastrous to growers in Java. A previous crisis had led them to do all means to lessen the cost of production, but the latter has now reached almost the extreme limit. Now masters stand that or many estates the price realised for sugar not only does not cover the cost of production, but in some cases, falls below it. The only remedy lies in setting a limit to the production of sugar. To attain this requires the closing of these estates that have no adequate financial resources, and the co-operation among these planters who have chances of making head against adverse fortune."

On New Year's Day the body of a Chinaman was found strangled on the public highway at a small distance beyond the bridge of the town of Wai-ho, near Canton. The Emperor had evidently been dead for some hours, but there seemed to be no trace of any wound or violence that could have caused his death. It is believed that probably the man was a mercenary who had come in from China and been taken ill and dead, and had been left there either by some vehicle or been carried from a boat. It was singular to note the complete indifference with which the Chinaman lay there, his body, scarcely feeling it, and paying less attention to it than if it were a log of wood. Nothing was spread over it and it lay there in the glare and heat of the sun till past midday, a very startling spectacle to holiday pleasure seekers.

Mr. Jerome Dyer, who visited the colony in May last as correspondent for the Melbourne Argus and Australasian, accompanying the Victorian Government Commercial Commission, arrived here with the Tropen and proceeded to Japan to-morrow. As mentioned in our issue of Monday, Mr. Dyer is now visiting the Amakiri-cho, and is engaged in the examination of the administration and production of Victoria, and he informs that on his return from the North in a few weeks he will hold an exhibition here of Australian products on a much larger scale than before. These food products seem to have rapidly established a reputation here, so much so that he would be buyers found a difficulty in obtaining supplies. This has now been remedied by the leading Chinese men, now half sick, having made arrangements for regular shipments. Our Australian neighbours have behaved so honourably that they deserve it. We understand that their wives are now likely to come largely into consumption here."

The Straits Times of the 28th December says: "This morning at 10 o'clock the naval commandant of Consul met at Mr. Stanford's office to discuss the situation produced by the Secretary of State's most recent despatch on the subject of the Military Contribution. Nothing definite was arranged as to whether the members should or should not resign, and that point still remains open for further consideration. It is improbable that the Singapore naval members will seriously consider this, as the Straits Association on the subject, The Chinese, were compelled, by the fact that Mr. Bogard's tenure of office expires in three days, that the Dutch would presumably resign his post, and the members would be compelled to resign. The Chinese, however, had been so strongly determined to do this at his post, that he was compelled to resign. The Chinese naval members will be a member within a few months on the occasion of going home on leave of absence. It may be noted from another column that a number of Penang gentlemen called upon the Governor to ask the privilege of voting for members of the Legislative Council, which seems to indicate that the Penang mind is not a catastrophe inevitable? Is there any hope for the war, with the evident hope and intention that Peking is the goal to which the Japanese troops are bound? And if that be the case, and if the Emperor Kwang-Su remains obstinately determined to die at his post, he should seek safety in flight, not a catastrophe inevitable? Is there any hope for the war, with the evident hope and intention that Peking is the goal to which the Japanese troops are bound? And if that be the case, and if the Emperor Kwang-Su remains obstinately determined to die at his post, he should seek safety in flight, not a catastrophe inevitable? Is there any hope for the war, with the evident hope and intention that Peking is the goal to which the Japanese troops are bound? 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NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship "JAYA" PHON ANTWERP, LONDON, BOMBAY AND THE STRAIT.

Consignment of Cargo to the Straits, will be sent in to the Agent, and the Goods will be landed and placed at their risk into the Godowns and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, whence delivery can be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo—

For Particulars apply to D. E. K. N. R. S. L. I. P. R. I. N. E. Agents.

Argus, Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. 132

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

KONINKLIJK PAKETVAART MAATSCHAPPIJ.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

THE Steamship "CLEPES" having arrived from JAPAN, Consignees of cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside. Any cargo in pending the discharge will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

LAUTS, WEIGELER & Co., Agents.

Argus, Hongkong, 31st December, 1894. 133

NOTICES TO CONSIGNERS.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STREAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNERS.

STEAMER (P. S. "SIK") FROM HACOMA, VICTORIA, YOKO-HAMA, AND KOBE. Hongkong, 1st November, 1894. 137

TO LET.

FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED HOUSE at MAGAZINE GAP. From the First July. Apply to CHANTREY INCHBALD, Hongkong, 25th June, 1894. 135

TO LET.

D WELLING HOUSES—
"BANGOUR" MOUNT KELLET (furnished)
"DUNHEVED" ROBINSON ROAD, Farnham.
"HIGHCLERE" at MAGAZINE GAP, No. 2, CASTLE TERRACE, A HOUSES & West End Terrace, BON-

FLOORS, BINE BUILDINGS, FLOORS in Elgin Street, Peel Street and STANTON STREET, FLOORS in No. 5, SHELLY STREET, GODOWNS—

BLUE BUILDINGS, No. 7A, PRAYA CENTRAL. Apply to THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LTD., Hongkong, 14th December, 1894. 138

TO LET.

STEAMSHIP "BALTIC" COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNERS of cargo from London, ex S. S. Cambodge, from Hanoi or S. S. Cambodge, in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasures and Valuables, are being landed and stored at the Godowns of the Godown and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained after landing.

Optional cargo will be forwarded on unless

intimation is received from the Consignees before NOON, To-day (THURSDAY), the 27th inst., requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after THURSDAY, the 3rd January, 1895, at NOON, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims will be sent in to me on or before the 3rd January, 1895, or they will not be recognized.

All damaged packages will be examined on THURSDAY, the 3rd January, 1895, at 3 P.M.

No fire insurance will be effected.

G. O. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, 27th December, 1894. 133

TO LET.

From 1st DECEMBER, HOUSE No. 22, CAINE ROAD. Apply to M. MOURENT, No. 5, ARBUTHNOT ROAD, Hongkong, 2nd November, 1894. 138

TO LET.

N O. 2, PEDDER'S STREET, next to the GENERAL POST OFFICE. Apply to G. C. ANDERSON, Hongkong, 8th December, 1894. 140

TO LET.

GODOWNS in WANCHAI, at the Back of MCGREGOR'S BARRACKS. OFFICES 1ST FLOR, including the Offices of the Undersigned in Ice House Street, Suitable for Bidders and Merchants. Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Hongkong, 11th December, 1894. 134

TO LET.

3-ROOMED FLAT, WANCHAI. GODOWN, WANCHAI. Apply to HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LTD., Hongkong, 14th September, 1894. 137

TO LET.

THE whole Suits of OFFICES on the 1st Floor and GODOWN attached to the Ice Company's Premises, at Ice House Lane. Apply to the MANAGER, Hongkong, 5th July, 1894. 136

TO LET.

COMMODIOUS GODOWN on PRAYA EAST. Apply to SIEMSEN & Co., Hongkong, 5th April, 1895. 33

BOARD AND RESIDENCE:

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED ROOMS, with Board. Apply to Mrs. MATHER, Hongkong, 1st January, 1892. 177

THE PALATINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED of MANCHESTER. MODERATE RATES. PROMPT SETTLEMENTS. Hongkong, 1st January, 1892.

General Agent at Hongkong FOR FIRE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCES, 1610. A. H. BENNIE.

D. E. K. N. R. S. LION BRAND. A. N. T. I. P. R. I. N. E. Agents for Adults 15 to 35 years (toy).

is the most approved and most efficacious Remedy for CHAOS, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHUMATISM, FEVY, TYPE, US. INFLUENZA, DENGUE, ERYSIPELUS, HOOTING COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic, highly recommended by the Medical Faculty. Ask for DR. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE. Enclosed in red letters.

"DERMATOL" is the best Vulnerary; it is effect in stimulating the closing up of Wounds is described as amazing.

To be had at every reputed Chemist and Druggist.

Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China.

Beware of spurious imitations. 1374

YEE SANG & CO. LOCAL MERCHANTS, have always on hand LARG STOCKS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF COAL.

Address—Gard. Mews, KWONG SANG & CO., KOWLOON.

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